

Madame Chair.

Position: Chairperson of Service

With hands to serve I travel on my journey as a pilgrim of hope. A journey rooted in faith, defined by my trust in God, and, in answering the call, keeps me moving forward with much needed perseverance and commitment to share God's love with the world.

How do we find the strength to see God's joy in the world? In simple terms, through dedicated service to others in need, support to our young students, and appreciation to each of us present here today.

Serving those in need of compassion and love, especially near the end of their glorious lives, can be achieved through collaboration on resolutions promoting the importance of palliative care. With National Hospice Palliative Care Week taking place the week of May 4<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup>, National has posted on their website the "12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care" Kit. This kit reiterates Pope Francis' message on renewing compassion in the world; share this at a meeting, encourage discussions on the importance of palliative care, or simply hold a prayer service for your parish welcoming everyone.

Each day brings its set of challenges, but as pilgrims of hope, we see these challenges as an opportunity to grow and deepen our faith. A particularly susceptible group, who with amazing resilience, prove themselves stronger and rooted in their faith, are our young students. Presenting themselves at podiums giving life to amazing speeches, putting in words through essay and poem, their organizations. I am humbled by these young pilgrims, full of hope, who continue to grow in their faith.

Our hands may tire, and the journey may feel long, but as pilgrims of hope, through loving service, we understand that ultimately, God's grace will see us through. My first year as Chairperson of Service has led me to this beautiful and peaceful understanding of God's grace.

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## THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA TORONTO DIOCESAN COUNCIL 104<sup>th</sup> Convention Oral Report April 28 and 29, 2025 Ajax Convention Centre 550 Beck Road Here I am Lord, send me Pilgrims of Hope

My written report can be found on pages 17 and 18 in the on-line Annual Report Book.

This concludes my report.

Gabriella Di Pietrantonio Service Chair

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